difficulties during the past two years mainly on account of fall in shrimp catch due to operation by an increasing numbers of trawlers. Since January 1, 1989, SCICI has taken steps to assist deep sea fishing industries by way of reschedulement of loan instalments and deferment of interest in respect of loans granted by the erstwhile SDFC to the fishing companies.

(d) Import of shrimp trawlers and multipurpose vessels is not allowed. Acquisition of only resource specific vessels to exploit specific fishery resources available in the Exclusive Economic Zone of India is permitted in order to help growth in Marine Products Exports.

Revival of sick fishing industry in the Southern States

2944. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the SCICI is aware that for the last two years the fishing industry in the Southern States has been facing a crisis; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken since January 1, 1989, to revive the sick fishing industry in the Southern States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) SCICI has reported that except for the place of incorporation, the distinction of fishing companies as of Southern States could not be made. All the fishing companies are operating their vessels in the Exclusive Economic Zone of India. SCICI has also reported that they are aware of the problems which are being faced by the fishing companies from the past two years, mainly on account of over exploitation of shrimp resources by an increasing number of trawlers and shortfall in shrimp production.

(b) Steps have been taken since January, 1989, to revive sick deep sea fishing units by way of reschedulement of loan instalments and deferment of interest in respect of the loans granted by the erstwhile SDFC to the Fishing Companies. Reliefs have been given to the companies on the basis of profitability projections, debt-servicing capability, and specific plan for clearing overdues.

Traffic jams on G.T. road on Shahdara-Ghaziabad border

2945. SHRI ASHISH SEN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware of the frequent traffic jams on the G.T. Road between Shahdara and the Shahdara-Ghaziabad border and on the road linking the said portion of the G.T. Road with Old Seemapuri, Dilshad Colony and 'X' 'J&K', and 'N' and 'P' pockets of Dilshad Garden due to heavy vehicular traffic particularly trucks coming from Punjab and Haryana destined for Uttar Pradesh or for the Transport Centre at border point;

(b) whether any decision was taken in consultation with Government of Uttar Pradesh to shift the Transport Centre at the border to some other place;

(c) if so, what are the reasons for not implementing the decision so far; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to eliminate traffic jams in question till shifting of the Transport Centre?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir. Due to heavy vehicular movement, the traffic does get disrupted sometimes. The traffic jams are immediately cleared by the traffic/local police.

(b) and (c) No such proposal has been mooted to the Ministry of Home Affairs by the Delhi Police/Delhi Administration.